GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:251
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2016
Conservation of Biosphere Reserves
Panda Shri Baijayant "Jay"

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of biosphere reserves notified in the country along with the assistance, financial or otherwise provided by the Government for the protection and conservation of wildlife and livelihood of the local inhabitants during each of the last three years and the current year, biosphere reserve and State- wise;
(b) whether the Government has not been able to release funds in favour of certain biosphere reserves including Similipal Biosphere Reserve in Odisha during the said period;
(c) if so, the reasons therefor along with the steps being taken for release of funds expeditiously; and
(d) the measures taken to ensure that the protection and conservation of wildlife and livelihood of the local inhabitants in the said biosphere reserves are not adversely affected due to lack of/non-release of funds?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Question No.*251 on "CONSERVATION OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES" raised by SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA to be answered on 15.03.2016.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(a) There are 18 Biospheres Reserves designated in the country since 1986. Details of financial assistance provided by the Government in the last three years and the current year is given below:

(` in lakhs)
Sl. NO. NAME OF STATE NAME OF BIOSPHERE RESERVE 2012-13 2013-14

2014-15 2015-16
1 Uttarakhand Nanda Devi --
2
Tamil Nadu
Nilgiri -- 15.225 50.00
Gulf of Mannar -- 29.53 (rev.)
Agasthyarmalai 80.00 80.00
3. West Bengal Sunderbans 80.00 50.00 73.81 99.20
4. Karnataka Nilgiri --
5. Kerala Nilgiri 7.88 (second inst.) 80.00 100.00
Agasthyarmalai 61.03 79.98 100.00
6. A& N Islands Great Nicobar 15.00 19.70 25.00
7. Odisha Similipal 65.00 (rev.)
8. Assam Dibrusaikhowa 40.00 (rev.)
Manas

60.46 (Rev. From 10-11) 88.70
9. Meghalaya Nokrek 39.85 150.00
10. Sikkim Khangchendzonga 25.00 100.00 71.05 37.65
11. Arunachal Pradesh

Dehang Dibang -- 48.64
12. Madhya
Pradesh Pachmarhi --
Achanakmar-Amarkantak -- 49.02
Panna
13. Chhattisgarh Achanakmar-Amarkantak 45.44 149.75 100.00 76.16
14. Gujarat Gulf of Kachchh 70.00
15. Andhra Pradesh Seshachalam 20.00 20.00 (rev.)
16. Himachal Pradesh Cold Desert 81.48
Total 344.20 594.67 806.34 424.37

(b)& (c) The Government could not release funds in favour of six Biosphere Reserves i.e. Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve (Uttarakhand), Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserves(Tamil Nadu), Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (Karnataka), Similipal Biosphere Reserve (Odisha), Dibru saikhowa (Assam), Pachmarhi (Madhya Pradesh) during the last three years and the current year due to non-submission of requisite documents. In case of Similipal Biosphere Reserves, Rs. 65 lakhs were revalidated from 2011-12 to 2012-13. Funds for 2015-16 for this Biosphere Reserve could not be released due to non-submission of Progress Report as per the guidelines. (d) Besides Biosphere Reserves, there are other complementary schemes like Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats, Project Tiger, Project Elephant and Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) wherein activities like providing safe drinking water, supply of improved chullah, LPG, Solar cookers, apiculture, sericulture and pisciculture, promoting community based ecotourism programme etc. are taken up. Moreover, activities which cannot be completed in a particular year are carried forward to the next financial year.